

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company was established in 1823 to mine the anthracite coal resources in the Lackawanna and Wyoming Valleys of Pennsylvania and to market that coal in New York City. An integral component of the transportation system that the D&H created to transport that coal to market was the Gravity Railroad that the company established between Carbondale and Honesdale. In order to meet market needs for anthracite coal, which increased dramatically in the course of the nineteenth century, the D&H established five different configurations of that Gravity Railroad between 1829 and 1899. These five volumes are the most detailed and comprehensive history ever written about that Gravity Railroad, an engineering achievement of the highest order.